

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for logically provisioning resources in a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for a set of resources in a plurality of resources in a provisioning environment within the data processing system, wherein each resource in said set of resources is one of a plurality of different types of resources, wherein said plurality of different types of resources comprises hardware elements and software elements;

associating a current state variable and a shared state variable with each one of said plurality of resources, wherein the current state variable indicates whether the each one of said plurality of resources is available, in a process of being reserved, or reserved, and wherein the shared state variable indicates whether the each one of said plurality of resources is a shared resource;

selecting a particular instance of a resource in said set of resources of said plurality of resources from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources;

indicating that said selected particular instance is in the process of being reserved utilizing the current state variable, wherein said selected particular instance is unavailable for selection after indicating that said selected [[the]] particular instance is in the process of being reserved, wherein said selected particular instance is unavailable for selection by another request prior to provisioning said selected particular instance, and wherein a selection is prevented of any of said plurality of resources having an indication of in the process of being reserved;

logically provisioning said selected particular instance to fulfill the request by establishing logical relationships between said selected particular instance and other resources;

~~associating a state variable with the each one of said plurality of resources, wherein the state variable indicates whether the each one of said plurality of resources is available, being reserved, or reserved; and~~

responsive to logically provisioning said selected particular instance to fulfill the request, indicating whether the each one of said plurality of resources is reserved utilizing [[said]] the current state variable, wherein a reserved resource has an established logical relationship with said provisioning environment and said reserved resource is not a shared resource.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
identifying other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2 , further comprising the steps of:
selecting a particular instance for each of said other ones from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use; and
logically provisioning said selected particular instance for each of said other ones to fulfill a request by establishing logical relationships between each of said other ones.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
said group of unassigned available resources including no preassigned logical associations with any other one of said plurality of resources.
- 6.-8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
creating a topology for said provisioning environment, said topology including a layout of said plurality of different types of resources; and
said layout defining relationships among said plurality of different types of resources.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:
utilizing said relationships defined by said layout to identify other ones of said plurality
of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.
11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:
determining other ones of said plurality of resources that are to be associated with said
particular instance.
12. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:
determining other ones of said plurality of resources that depend on said particular
instance.
- 13.-36. (Canceled)
37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the request comprises a
list of previously reserved resources to be used to satisfy the request.
- 38.-39. (Canceled)